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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/659,145	09/10/2003	Marie Ann McMasters	GE126465	3043
29827	7590	07/05/2005	EXAMINER	
FRANCIS L. CONTE, ESQ. 6 PURITAN AVENUE SWAMPSCOTT, MA 01907				KIM, TAE JUN
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3746				

DATE MAILED: 07/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/659,145	MCMASTERS, MARIE ANN	
	Examiner Ted Kim	Art Unit 3746	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 March 2005.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some *
 - c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>03/28/05, 01/15/05</u> | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Applicant's amendment of the specification and drawings is inconsistent with those originally filed with the office. In the originally filed drawings in Figures 3 and 4, the "transverse" spacing B was shown diagonally to indicate the spacing between the lip and the coating aft of the slot. Originally filed Figure 4 shows the spacing H as an "axial spacing". Applicant's modification of the figures removes the original "B" from both Figures, replaces "H" in Figure 4 with "B", and uses an "axial spacing" B in both Figures 3 and 4. However, it is clear from the specification that spacing C was also "radial" or "transverse" and applicant cannot designate spacing B, which was originally designated as a "transverse spacing" in paragraphs 31-34 and yet with the amendment to paragraph 50 changes the designated spacing B to an "axial spacing." Applicant's amendment introduces new matter in redefining how the spacing B, which is the only spacing generic to both Figures 3 and 4, from that of the original specification and drawings.

Original drawings

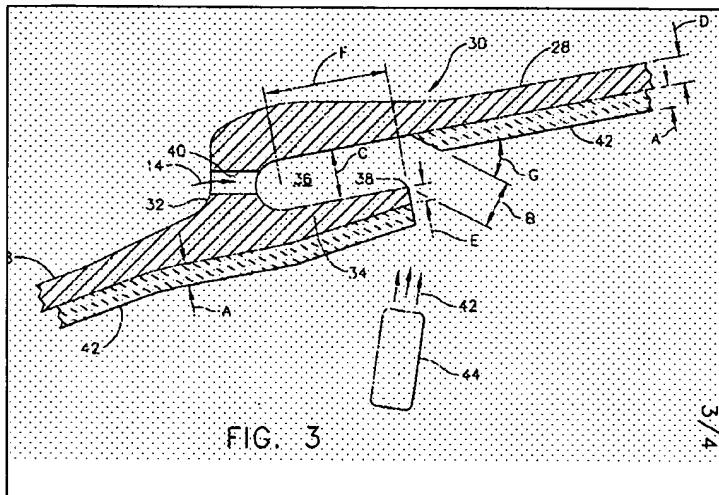


FIG. 3

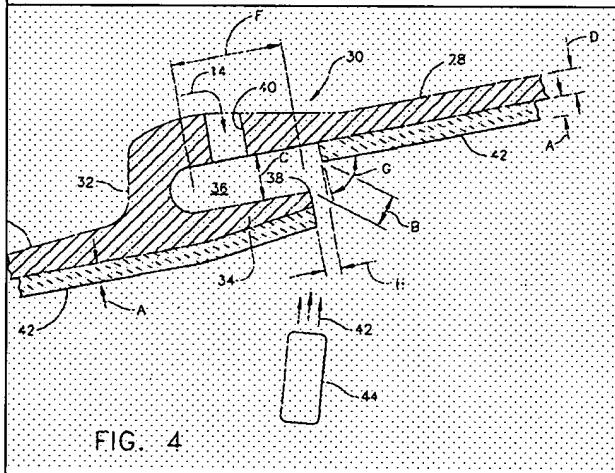


FIG. 4

Replacement drawings

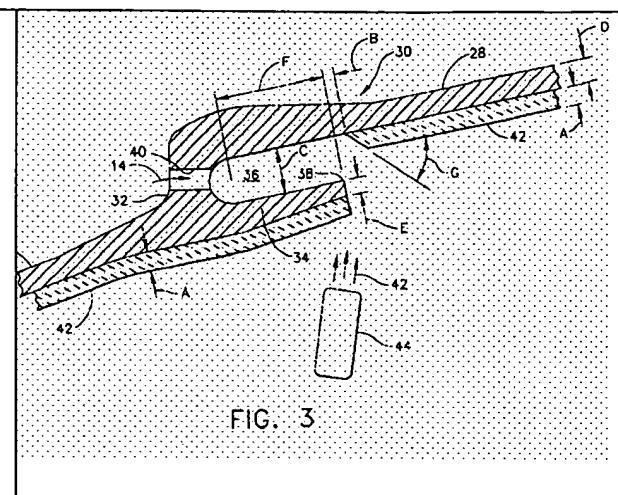


FIG. 3

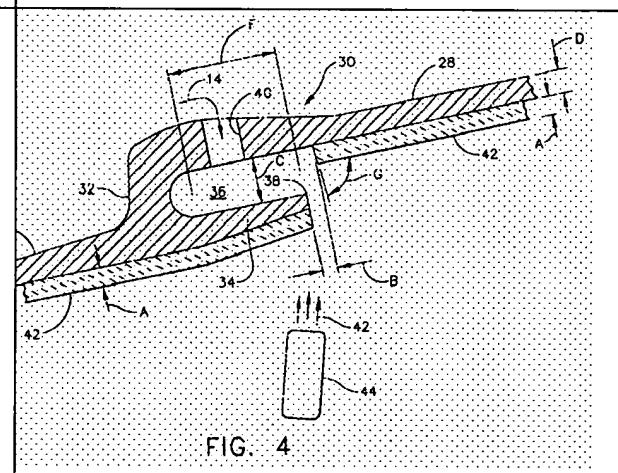


FIG. 4

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

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(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1, 2, 11-14, 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Moertle et al (2003/0200752). Moertle et al teach a combustor liner comprising: a plurality of forward 64 and aft 66 panels 54 (see Fig. 4) joined together at a cooling nugget 65 including an integral bridge having a lip (unlabeled) extending aft from said forward panel and spaced from said aft panel to define a slot terminating in an outlet; a thermal barrier coating 69, 71 with thickness covering inboard surfaces of said panels and lip with a nominal thickness and having a leading edge inclined at an acute angle aft of said slot outlet; and said lip having a distal end at said slot outlet being spaced from said coating aft of said slot less than about said coating nominal thickness; wherein said slot has a height at said slot outlet, and said coating is as thick as about half said slot height; said cooling nugget includes a row of aperture inlets 66 disposed in flow communication with said slot for channeling cooling air therethrough; and said nugget inlets have a smaller collective flow area relative to said slot outlet at said coating; said aft panel has a thickness aft of said nugget, and said coating is as thick as about said panel thickness at the end of 71; said nugget inlets 66 extend axially through said bridge, and said coating initiates at said leading edge on said aft panel with a shallow ramp

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 3-6, 15, 16 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Moertle et al (2003/0200752) in view of McCaffrey et al (6,438,958). Moertle et al teach various aspects of the claimed invention but do not teach the specific range for the length to height ratio nor the coating being thicker than the lip thickness. McCaffrey et al teach a coating 90 being thicker than the lip thickness. As for the claimed range of height to length ratio of the slot, this also appears to be illustrated and it would have been obvious to employ as a conventional range used in the art and/or as an obvious matter of finding the workable ranges in the art.

6. Claims 8, 9, 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moertle et al as applied above, and further in view of Kenworthy (3,845,620). Moertle et al teach a slot cooled liner with axial inlet holes but does not teach transverse inlet openings. Kenworthy teaches a slot cooled liner with transverse inlet openings 18b (Fig. 1b) is old and well known in the art and equivalent to one with axial inlet openings 18 (Fig. 1). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ transverse inlet openings as an equivalent configuration used in the art.

wherein said lip has a thickness at said slot outlet, and said coating is thicker than said lip thickness.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Applicant's amendment to the drawings, specification redefining the spacing as well as the claims required a new search and consideration of the art.

8. Applicant's amendment filed 03/28/2005 necessitated any new grounds of rejection. Accordingly, THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. See MPEP § 706.02(l)(3). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Contact Information

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Ted Kim whose telephone number is 571-272-4829. The Examiner can be reached on regular business hours before 5:00 pm, Monday to Thursday and every other Friday.

The fax numbers for the organization where this application is assigned are 703-872-9306 for Regular faxes and 703-872-9306 for After Final faxes.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy Thorpe, can be reached at 571-272-4444.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist of Technology Center 3700, whose telephone number is 703-308-0861. General inquiries can also be directed to the Patents Assistance Center whose telephone number is 800-786-9199. Furthermore, a variety of online resources are available at <http://www.uspto.gov/main/patents.htm>



Ted Kim	Telephone	571-272-4829
Primary Examiner	Fax (Regular)	703-872-9306
June 27, 2005	Fax (After Final)	703-872-9306
Technology Center 3700 Receptionist	Telephone	703-308-0861
Patents Assistance Center	Telephone	800-786-9199

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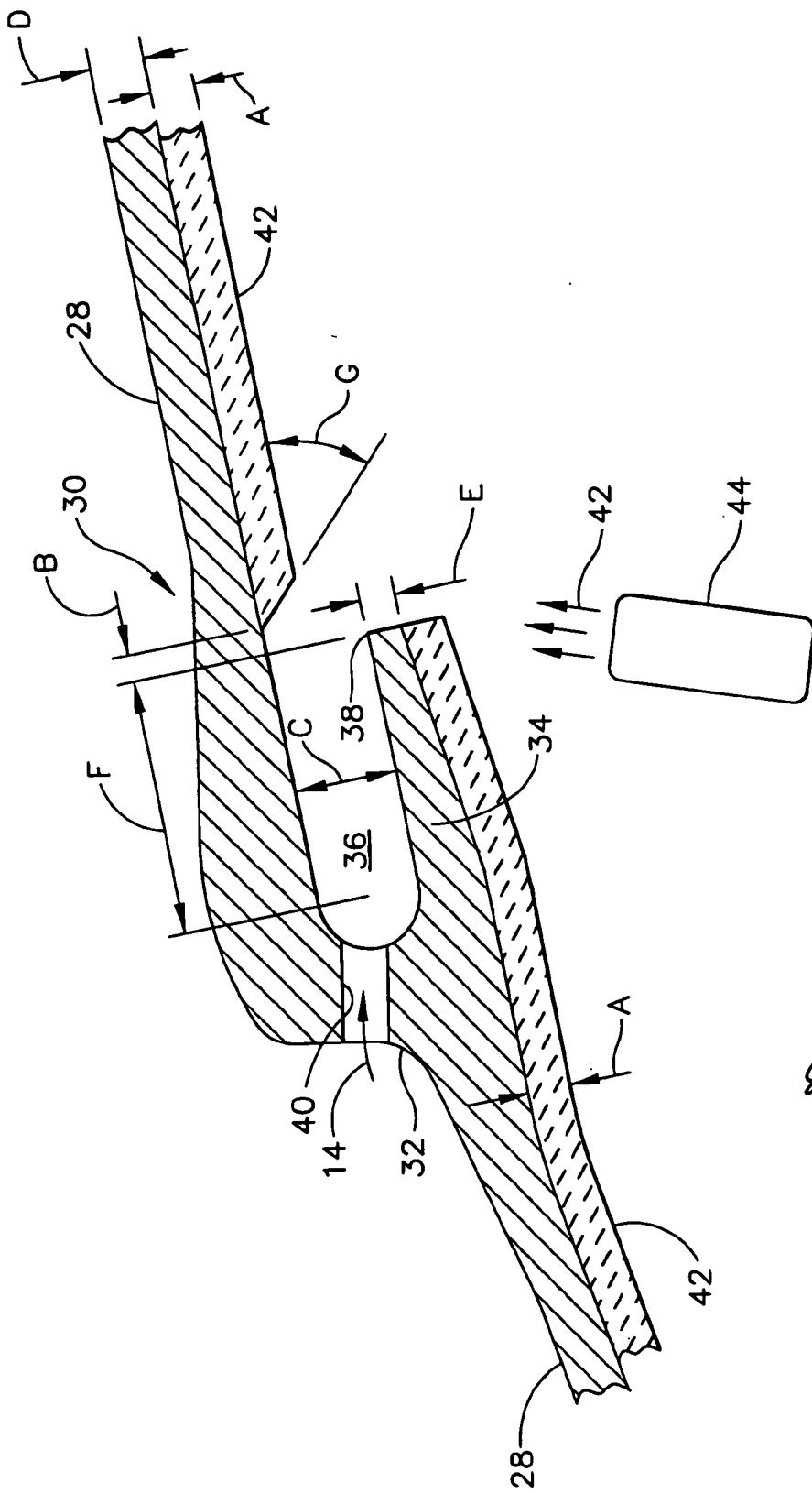


FIG. 3

Entry Not
Approved
Issue of
new matter
TM
5/5/05